THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Any further action in the matter at the level of Disciplinary Authority shall be possible only after receipt of the report of the Inquiry Officer consequent upon conclusion of the inquiry process. On receipt of the report of the Inquiry Officer, the respective Disciplinary Authorities shall take a decision in each of the cases in consultation with CVC.

Disappearance of Iodine in the Humid Temperature

[†]67. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scientific study has been conducted to ascertain the extent of humid temperature at which Iodine disappears; and

(b) if so, the details of the title of the study, the names of concerned research scientists and laboratory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Some scientific studies have been conducted regarding stability of Iodine which indicate higher loss of Iodine with increase in humidity and temperature. These studies are: (i) *Kinetics of Iodine loss from Potassium Iodate in iodized salt* and *Stability of iodized salt with respect to iodine content* by Dr SA Chauhan et al., from Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar; (ii) *Studies on the stability of iodine compounds in iodized salt* by FC Kelly of Chilean Iodine Educational Bureau, London; and (iii) *Stability of iodine in iodized salt used for correction of Iodine Deficiency Disorders* by Diosady et al. from University of Toronto, Canada.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.